BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Rulemaking on the Commission's Own Motion to Govern Open Access to Bottleneck Services and Establish a Framework for Network Architecture Development of Dominant Carrier Networks.

Rulemaking 93-04-003

Investigation on the Commission's Own Motion into Open Access and Network Architecture Development of Dominant Carrier Networks.

Investigation 93-04-002

Order Instituting Rulemaking on the Commission's Own Motion Into Competition for Local Exchange Service.

Rulemaking 95-04-043

Order Instituting Investigation on the Commission's Own Motion Into Competition for Local Exchange Service.

Investigation 95-04-044

ASSIGNED COMMISSIONER'S RULING REMOVING THE EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS BAN IN THE SECTION 271 PROCEEDING

On December 5, 2001, pursuant to Rule 1.6 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure (Rules), I issued a ruling placing a ban "on any and all ex parte communications with Commission decisionmakers" in the above-titled proceeding. While the ruling imposed the ban until the issuance of the Draft Decision (DD), the ban was not formally removed when the DD was issued and has continued in effect.

Effective today, I remove the existing ban and remind all parties that in accordance with Rules 1.1 and 1.3(b) this is a covered proceeding guided by the

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reporting requirements of Rule 1.4. Thus, a party shall report ex parte communications, whether the communication was initiated by the party or the decisionmaker, and shall file a notice with the Commission's San Francisco Docket Office within three working days of the communication.

Dated October 31, 2002, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ GEOFFREY F. BROWN
Geoffrey F. Brown
Assigned Commissioner

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I have by mail, and by electronic mail, to the parties to which an electronic mail address has been provided, this day served a true copy of the original attached Assigned Commissioner's Ruling Removing the Ex Parte Communications Ban in the Section 271 Proceeding on all parties of record in this proceeding or their attorneys of record.

Dated October 31, 2002, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ TERESITA C. GALLARDO
Teresita C. Gallardo

NOTICE

Parties should notify the Process Office, Public Utilities Commission, 505 Van Ness Avenue, Room 2000, San Francisco, CA 94102, of any change of address to insure that they continue to receive documents. You must indicate the proceeding number on the service list on which your name appears.

The Commission's policy is to schedule hearings (meetings, workshops, etc.) in locations that are accessible to people with disabilities. To verify that a particular location is accessible, call: Calendar Clerk (415) 703-1203.

If specialized accommodations for the disabled are needed, e.g., sign language interpreters, those making the arrangements must call the Public Advisor at

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(415) 703-2074 or TDD# (415) 703-2032 five working days in advance of the event.